

XVIII. *Contributions to a Knowledge of the Rhynchota.*  
By W. L. DISTANT.

[Read November 6th, 1901.]

PLATE XVI.

THE following descriptions appertain to a number of interesting species, some recently included in my collection. For the species from Hainan Island and the two beautiful Cicadas here figured, I have to thank my ever-helpful friend Dr. E. A. Heath.

An undescribed *Catacanthus* from India, where *C. incarnatus*, Drury, is such a dominant and widely-spread species, was unexpected, and *C. mirabilis*, sp. n., from Travancore makes a second species of the genus known to inhabit British India. A small collection placed in my hands by Mr. R. Shelford, of the Sarawak Museum, contained some interesting novelties, of which *Coptosoma regnum*, sp. n., is one of, if not the finest species in the genus, and it is evident that our present knowledge of the Bornean Rhynchota is still very imperfect.

HETEROPTERA.

Family PENTATOMIDÆ.

Subfamily PLATASPIDINÆ.

*Coptosoma regnum*, sp. n. (Plate XVI, fig. 4, a. b.)

Ochraceous; head and a large apical subtriangular patch to scutellum—occupying about half of the whole area—black; head with two ochraceous lateral spots containing some dark punctures; pronotum with scattered coarse black punctures and two waved piceous lines on anterior area; scutellum with scattered coarse dark punctures on ochraceous area, the black apical area coarsely punctate and with some castaneous reticulations; sternum black, opaque; abdomen and legs pale castaneous, abdominal disk and segmental margin black.

Head broad, moderately convexly produced anteriorly, the central lobe gibbously raised and reaching the anterior margin, margins of the lateral lobes moderately reflexed; pronotum with the lateral angles distinctly broadly convexly subprominent.

Long. 7 millim. Max. lat. 7 millim.

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*Hab.* BORNEO, Matang (Shelford).

This large and magnificent species cannot well be confounded with any *Coptosoma* at present described.

Subfamily *SCUTELLERINÆ*.

*Chrysocoris indigoferus*, sp. n.

Above metallic-green; central lobe of head, three broad longitudinal fasciæ to pronotum—not reaching anterior margin and the two outermost broken near apices—and a spot near lateral angles, scutellum with three large spots on each side, a very small basal, a large discal elongate spot and the apex, dark indigo-blue; body beneath, rostrum, and legs ochraceous; margin of head beneath, lateral segmental spots to sternum, apices of rostrum and femora, the tibiæ, and marginal segmental spots to abdomen, dark indigo-blue; central spots between the coxæ, and the antennæ black, the last with the basal joint—excluding apex—ochraceous.

Second joint of antennæ very short, third and fourth almost subequal, each shorter than the fifth.

Long. 15 millim. Exp. pronot. angl. 9 millim.

*Hab.* HAINAN ISLAND.

In structure and markings of the body above this species is closely allied to *C. bilunulatus*, Vollenh., but differs entirely by the colour beneath.

Subfamily *CYDNINÆ*.

*Fromundus*, gen. nov.

Body somewhat short and broad, above opaque. Head moderately exserted, the eyes prominent and not resting on the anterior margin of the pronotum, lateral margins rounded, anterior margin broad, sub-truncate, central lobe as long as the lateral lobes, the margins with about twelve long hairs, antennæ five-jointed, first and second joints shortest, most slender, and subequal in length; third, fourth and fifth incrassated, fifth longest; rostrum reaching the intermediate coxæ, second joint reaching the anterior coxæ; pronotum broader than long, anterior margin concavely excavated for the insertion of the head, the anterior angles broadly prominent, extending beyond the outer margin of eyes, lateral margins slightly obliquely rounded, and furnished with some scattered long hairs; scutellum longer than broad, reaching to about two-thirds the length of the abdomen, lateral margins slightly convex and narrowed to apex; corium about two-thirds the length of the abdomen, outer margin moderately

dilated and convex, much broader than the abdomen, posterior margin slightly sinuate; membrane short; anterior tibiæ moderately dilated, with five or six spines on their outer margin, and with two apical spines; intermediate and posterior tibiæ longly spinous on both sides.

This genus is somewhat difficult to precisely locate. In a general enumeration I should place it in the neighbourhood of *Hiverus*. In my Indian monograph I record it after *Brachypelta*.

*Fromundus opacus*, sp. n.

Dull dark castaneous, very closely and thickly punctate, the lateral margins of the corium paler in hue; antennæ and rostrum ochraceous; sternum and legs castaneous; abdomen piceous, shining; membrane pale hyaline.

Pronotum with two obscure dull discal patches; scutellum with a levigate spot near each basal angle; the upper surface very thickly and somewhat coarsely punctate; abdomen beneath finely punctate.

Long. 4 millim. Max. lat. 3 millim.

*Hab.* CEYLON (Green—Brit. Mus.).

*Schirus orientalis*, sp. n.

Head, pronotum, scutellum, body beneath and legs, black; corium very dark castaneous, with two small discal ochraceous spots placed one above the other; membrane hyaline, the venation brownish; tarsi ochraceous; antennæ brownish, the apical joint palest.

Head broad, strongly punctate, the lateral lobes much longer than central lobe and meeting in front of it; pronotum strongly punctate with a strong transverse central impression, and with three longitudinal furrows on posterior half; scutellum thickly punctate, lateral areas prominently grooved, a faint central carinate line, and the apex a little depressed; corium coarsely punctate, the veins very prominent.

Long. 3 millim.

*Hab.* BURMA, Karen.

Subfamily *PENTATOMINÆ*.

*Prætextatus*, gen. nov.

Body ovate; head with the lateral margins laminate, angulated in front of eyes and then distinctly sinuate, the lateral lobes longer than the central lobe but not quite meeting at their apices, eyes prominent;

antennæ five-jointed, basal joint not reaching the apex of the head ; pronotum with the lateral margins oblique, laminate, slightly but distinctly recurved ; the anterior angles prominent, anterior margin sinuated for the reception of the head, lateral angles subprominent ; scutellum shorter than the corium gradually attenuated to apex which is narrow and obtusely acute ; membrane with longitudinal veins, some furcate but not reticulate ; rostrum reaching the intermediate coxæ, first joint not quite reaching base of head ; meso- and metasterna somewhat obscurely furrowed.

Allied to *Ædnus*, Dall., and differing principally by the narrowed scutellum ; also by the sinuated and more reflexed lateral margins of the head, etc.

*Prætextatus typicus*, sp. n.

Blackish-castaneous, the corium a little paler in hue ; membrane fuliginous ; antennæ piceous, the apical joint stramineous ; body beneath black ; legs and rostrum dark castaneous ; pronotum with two small central pale spots on anterior disk.

Antennæ with the fourth joint longest, second shorter than third ; upper surface thickly punctate, scutellum transversely wrinkled.

Long. 13 millim. Exp. pronot. angl. 7 millim.

*Hab.* BURMA (Coll. Dist.).

*Valescus*, gen. nov.

Somewhat broadly ovate ; head with the lateral margins reflexed, moderately laminate, angulated in front of eyes, the lateral lobes longer than the central and cleft at their apices, eyes large and prominent ; antennæ five-jointed, basal joint not reaching the apex of the head ; pronotum with the anterior angles broadly truncate and acutely angulated at their apices, lateral margins oblique, moderately laminate and very finely crenulate, lateral angles subprominent, posterior margin nearly straight, anterior margin excavated for the reception of the head behind which it is truncate ; scutellum more than half the length of the abdomen and narrowed before apex which is rounded ; membrane not quite reaching apex of abdomen and with longitudinal veins ; rostrum reaching the intermediate coxæ, the first joint almost extending to base of head ; meso- and metasterna somewhat obscurely furrowed ; antennæ, tibiæ, and tarsi distinctly pilose.

Allied to *Ædnus* and *Prætextatus*.

*Valescus nigricans*, sp. n.

Very dark blackish-castaneous ; antennæ, rostrum, coxæ and legs dark ochraceous ; fifth joint of antennæ stramineous with its extreme apex piceous. Antennæ pilose, second joint a little shorter than third fourth or fifth joints which are subequal in length ; head coarsely punctate with a small impunctate spot before each eye ; pronotum transversely wrinkled, thickly punctate on the anterior and lateral margins, rugulose on posterior area ; scutellum transversely wrinkled, obscurely finely punctate on apical area ; corium thickly punctate ; sternum coarsely punctate, abdomen very finely and obscurely punctate.

Long. 12 millim. Exp. pronot. angl. 7 millim.

*Hab.* CEYLON (G. Lewis).

*Hyparete vitiensis*, sp. n.

Dark ochraceous, thickly punctate ; eyes, two discal spots to pronotum, a spot at each basal angle and the apex and apical margins of scutellum, and a spot near anterior and intermediate coxæ, black ; abdomen beneath—excluding lateral margins—pale castaneous.

Antennæ ochraceous, apices of third fourth and fifth joints infuscated, basal joint almost as long as the head its apex extending considerably beyond it, second fourth and fifth joints subequal in length, third a little shorter but longer than first, head with the basal area impunctate, containing three double longitudinal rows of punctures ; pronotum with the anterior angles extending a little beyond the latitude of the eyes, and terminating in a short spinous-tubercle, posterior angles obtusely subprominent, corium with the lateral margins moderately amplified and rounded ; abdomen beneath with the lateral margins widened and convexly rounded, with the second and third joints sulcated at base ; rostrum just passing the posterior coxæ ; membrane with longitudinal veins, and considerably extending beyond the apex of abdomen.

Long. 16 millim. Exp. pronot. angl.  $7\frac{1}{2}$  millim.

*Hab.* FIJI ISLANDS.

*Catacanthus mirabilis*, sp. n. (Plate XVI, fig. 3, a. b.)

Reddish-ochraceous ; head, lateral and anterior margins of pronotum, two-thirds of the scutellum from base terminating in a lanceolate line, a large transverse rounded spot completely crossing corium a little beyond middle, sternum, disk of basal abdominal

segment and large lateral abdominal spots dark bluish-green; antennæ, legs, two discal spots to pronotum, a series of large marginal spots to connexivum, and central abdominal spots to abdomen, dark indigo-blue; membrane brassy black; extreme apices of femora, coxæ, lateral margins of meso- and metasterna, posterior margin of metasternum, and basal abdominal spine, ochraceous.

Second and third joints of antennæ shorter than fourth and fifth joints; lateral margins of pronotum very distinctly reflexed; pronotum very obscurely punctate, scutellum and corium much more distinctly punctate, apex of scutellum almost levigate; membrane considerably passing apex of abdomen.

Long. incl. membrane 28 millim. Exp. pronot. angl. 13 millim.

*Hab.* INDIA, Travancore.

A species by markings more resembling *C. nigripes*, Sulz., than the common oriental *C. incarnatus*, Drury.

*Axiagastus mitescens*, sp. n.

Head, pronotum and scutellum ochraceous; head with the margins of the central lobe black; antennæ with the basal joint ochraceous, second third and fourth joints black, fifth joint mutilated; pronotum with the lateral margins, a subanterior marginal series of punctures, four small spots in transverse series on anterior area, followed by a few scattered very coarse punctures, and an irregular series of coarse punctures near posterior margin, black; scutellum with three large black spots, two—rounded—on anterior disk, the other—sublunate—before apex; corium ochraceous, very thickly blackly punctate, the lateral margins, veins, and some discal markings, levigate ochraceous; membrane cupreous; body beneath and legs ochraceous; anterior and lateral margins—narrowly—of prosternum, coarse punctures to prosternum, a spot on each sternal segment, stigmata—with an outer and inner row of spots, and narrow posterior margins to abdominal segments, black.

Long. 13 to 14 millim. Exp. pronot. angl. 9 millim.

*Hab.* HAINAN ISLAND.

Allied to *A. rosmarus*, Dall., from which it differs by the much less and differently punctured head and pronotum, different colour of antennæ, etc.

*Brachycoris thoracicus*, sp. n.

Head, pronotum, and antennæ black; corium and scutellum ochraceous; nearly basal half of corium, and less than basal half of

lateral margins of scutellum, black; apical areas of corium and scutellum tinged with pale castaneous; membrane pale, smoky, hyaline; pronotum with five prominent, levigate, pale ochraceous spots—the central one transverse and longest—in curved series on anterior disk; body beneath and legs ochraceous; head beneath, rostrum, lateral areas of sternum, and anterior tibiæ excluding base, black; apices of intermediate and posterior tibiæ obscurely castaneous.

Head and pronotum finely transversely wrinkled and punctate, corium and scutellum thickly and finely punctate; antennæ with the fourth and fifth joints incrassated, fourth shorter than fifth, third shorter than second; rostrum just passing the intermediate coxæ.

Long. 6 millim. Exp. pronot. angl. 4 millim.

*Hab.* BORNEO, Muching (Shelford).

The pronotal levigate spots are a distinguishing feature of this species.

Subfamily *TESSARATOMINÆ*.

*Pygoplatys Shelfordi*, sp. n.

Reddish-ochraceous; antennæ, and the posterior margins of lateral pronotal spines, black; basal margins of odoriferous apertures piceous; basal joint of antennæ reddish-ochraceous; membrane ochraceous. Antennæ with the second joint much longer than the third—remainder mutilated; head sparingly punctate and obscurely transversely wrinkled; pronotum somewhat sparingly but coarsely punctate, two small transverse almost impunctate spaces on anterior area, lateral angles prominently spinous, acutely and moderately anteriorly produced, their anterior margins very thickly and coarsely punctate; scutellum finely punctate, about apical half much narrowed, deeply centrally sulcate, the extreme apex piceous; corium thickly and finely punctate; connexivum coarsely and darkly punctate, sternal process just passing anterior coxæ; abdomen prominently centrally ridged; lateral margins of the posterior abdominal segment and posterior margin of the anal appendage, narrowly black.

Long. 25 millim. Exp. pronot. angl. 17 millim.

*Hab.* BORNEO, Baram (Shelford).

Family *PYRRHOCORIDÆ*.

*Largus umbrosus*, sp. n.

Dull opaque ochraceous; head, antennæ, and legs, piceous; pronotum with scattered dark coarse punctures, anterior area somewhat castaneous, an oblique spot at each anterior angle and the posterior

margin pale, impunctate ; scutellum somewhat castaneous, darkly punctate ; corium sparsely darkly punctate, the lateral margins and apical area impunctate ; sternum castaneous, greyishly pilose, lateral margins and coxæ, ochraceous, posterior margin of metasternum luteous ; abdomen pale castaneous, posterior segmental margins luteous.

Anterior femora with three spines beneath near apex, the central spine much the longest ; rostrum reaching or just passing the intermediate coxæ, antennæ with the first and fourth joints longest, second longer than the third.

Long. 10 to 12 millim.

*Hab.* WEST INDIES.

For over twenty years I have possessed a series of this distinct species for which I had no more precise habitat than the above. Uhler records no species of the genus from Smith's Antillian collection. The only Cuban species described is abundantly distinct. I have decided now to describe the species under the somewhat loose habitat of "West Indies."

*Largus geniculatus*, sp. n.

Head, antennæ, pronotum, scutellum, body beneath, rostrum, and legs, piceous ; extreme base and root of first joint of antennæ, anterior and posterior margins and sublateral anterior spots to pronotum, bucculæ, coxæ, bases and apices of femora, bases of tibiæ, and lateral sternal margins, sanguineous ; apex of scutellum and the corium reddish-ochraceous, thickly, coarsely, and blackly punctate, the lateral margins to corium impunctate ; membrane very pale ochraceous, not reaching apex of abdomen. First joint of antennæ longer than second or third joints but shorter than fourth joint ; pronotum and scutellum sparingly, coarsely, punctate ; body beneath finely pilose ; body elongate, broadest at about centre of corium.

Long. 12 millim. Max. lat.  $4\frac{1}{2}$  millim.

*Hab.* COLOMBIA, Cauca (Dr. Thieme).

*Stictaulax flammeolus*, sp. n.

Head, pronotum, and scutellum black ; eyes, anterior, lateral, and posterior margins of pronotum, luteous ; corium and the apex of the scutellum cinnamoneous ; membrane brownish-ochraceous ; body beneath luteous ; head beneath, large transverse spots near coxæ, discal segmental fasciæ to abdomen, rostrum, and legs black ; antennæ with the first and second joints black, remainder mutilated.



Head glabrous; pronotum obscurely punctate; corium thickly and finely punctate; body beneath levigate.

Long. 15 millim.

*Hab.* near PORT MORESBY.

Allied to *S. circumsepta*, Stål., from which it is distinguished by the levigate and fasciate under surface of the body.

*Dindymus obesus*, sp. n.

Reddish-ochraceous; scutellum, and basal area of abdomen beneath—the last centrally extending for about half its length and nowhere reaching the lateral margins—black; apical joint of antennæ ochraceous, its extreme apex fuscous; apex of scutellum reddish-ochraceous; membrane ochraceous; sternum, excluding lateral margins, a little darker in hue.

Abdomen very gibbous beneath, its sides moderately compressed; pronotum with the lateral margins strongly reflexed, inwardly bordered with some coarse punctures, anterior area gibbous and posteriorly defined by a transverse series of coarse punctures; scutellum with a transverse discal lunate ridge; corium with clavus thickly punctate.

Long. 16 millim. Max. abdom. exp. 7 millim.

*Hab.* SUMATRA (H. O. Forbes).

*Dindymus famosus*, sp. n.

Black; posterior lobe of pronotum dark castaneous; scutellum luteous, its base narrowly black; corium and abdomen beneath reddish-ochraceous; membrane black with a large central transverse ochraceous fascia.

Antennæ with the first joint much longer than the second—remainder mutilated; pronotum with the lateral margins somewhat strongly reflexed, head and anterior pronotal lobe levigate; posterior pronotal lobe somewhat coarsely punctate; corium almost impunctate, clavus distinctly punctate; body beneath impunctate.

Long. 13 millim.

*Hab.* DUKE YORK ISLAND.

*Scantius obscurus*, sp. n.

Dark piceous, unicolorous, a little paler or dark castaneous beneath. Above thickly but very finely punctate; pronotum with a broad central ridge on anterior disk, its lateral margins slightly reflexed;

antennæ robust, first and second joints longest and subequal in length, third a little shorter than fourth.

Long. 7 millim.

*Hab.* CEYLON.

Allied to *S. volucris*, Gerst, an East African species, but of which I possess examples from the Madras province of Brit. India.

*Dysdercus maurus*, sp. n.

Head, antennæ, scutellum, membrane, and legs, black; corium dark piceous, its lateral margins narrowing luteous; pronotum ochraceous, the anterior transverse callosity and lateral margins reddish-ochraceous, the margins of the callosity and the subbasal margin, black; sternum and abdomen beneath luteous; lateral margins of sternum and a transverse spot on each lateral area of sternal segments, lateral margins of abdomen—broadly—and a central discal fascia, coxæ, and extreme bases of femora, reddish-ochraceous; rostrum castaneous, its base and apex piceous; base of apical joint of antennæ luteous.

Posterior area of pronotum sparingly punctate; corium and clavus thickly punctate; rostrum reaching the second abdominal segment.

Long. 10 millim.

*Hab.* PERNAMBUCO, Quipapà.

*Dysdercus caribbæus*, sp. n.

Ochraceous; head, transverse callosity and lateral margins of pronotum, pale sanguineous; head with the apex, a basal central fascia, a spot in front of eyes and basal margin, black; pronotum with a variably sized piceous patch on posterior area; scutellum piceous its basal angles reddish; an oblique discal line, a transverse fascia and narrower apical fascia to corium piceous; membrane black; rostrum pale castaneous its base and apex piceous; sternum and abdomen luteous; lateral margins of sternum and abdomen, a transverse spot on the lateral areas of each sternal segment, coxæ and femora reddish-ochraceous; tibix and tarsi piceous; antennæ castaneous, its apical joint piceous with the base luteous; rostrum reaching the third abdominal segment.

Long. 9 to 10 millim.

*Hab.* ANTILLES.\*

\* The remarks previously made with reference to this locality (*supra* p. 588) are again applicable.

*Var. a.* Head unspotted ; apices of femora piceous.

*Var. b.* Resembling *Var. a.*, but with the corium and posterior lobe of pronotum without piceous markings, excepting the oblique discal line to corium.

## HOMOPTERA.

### Family CICADIDÆ.

*Pæcilopsaltria hova*, sp. n. (Plate XVI, fig. 2, a. b.)

♂. Head and thorax above olivaceous-green. Head with the front transversely striated with black and containing two anterior pale greenish spots ; vertex with the area of the ocelli, from which a curved fascia extends to eyes, a spot at anterior angles, and four small basal spots—those near eyes the largest, black. Pronotum with a spot on anterior margin, two elongate discal spots, two small rounded spots at centre of inner anterior margin, and the oblique incisures, black ; mesonotum with two central dentate spots on anterior margin, followed by both a small and elongate spot on each side, a small central triangular spot, and a spot at each of the anterior angles of the cruciform elevation, black ; abdomen above piceous very thickly greyishly pilose, the segmental margins and a basal central fascia olivaceous. Body beneath pale greenish-ochraceous ; base and apex of face, basal spots and subapical annulations to femora, tarsi, apex of rostrum, and abdominal segmental margins black ; opercula piceous their apical margins narrowly luteous.

Tegmina with the basal half pale greenish, the costal membrane, venation, and basal cell ochraceous ; apical half-grey semi-hyaline, irregularly spotted with fuscous, the venation ochraceous. Wings black, greyishly pilose at base ; apical and posterior margins white ; apical area greyish-brown with a white streak between the veins which are black and which at their apices have a submarginal series of black margined white spots.

Face strongly transversely striated with a profound central sulcation ; rostrum just passing the posterior coxæ ; opercula overlapping at centre, obliquely rounded at apices ; body very broad and robust.

Long. excl. tegm. 40 millim. Exp. tegm. 116 millim.

*Hab.* MADAGASCAR.

The nearest ally to this beautiful species is *P. brancsiki*, Dist.

*Cicada sylvara*, sp. n. (Plate XVI, fig. 1 ♀, a. b. ♂.)

♂. Head pale olivaceous-green ; the front castaneous, ochraceous at base with a central piceous spot ; vertex with the central area

behind front ochraceous, the ocelli bright castaneous margined with black. Prosternum olivaceous-green, with a large ochraceous discal spot on each side; mesosternum ochraceous, with two large but very obscure central obconical spots at anterior margin, the outer margins of which are intensely black; cruciform basal elevation ochraceous. Abdomen above more or less piceous and obscurely greyishly pilose, posterior margins of the second third and fourth segments and nearly the whole of the fifth and sixth segments, brownish-ochraceous. Body beneath with the face castaneous centrally piceous; sternum thickly greyishly pilose with its margins olivaceous-green, abdomen brownish-ochraceous, sparingly greyishly pilose, *in the female* with a central darker fascia; legs castaneous, coxæ, apices of femora and bases of tibiæ ochraceous, posterior tibiæ palest in hue.

Tegmina and wings pale hyaline with the venation fuscous; tegmina with the costal membrane, upper half of basal cell and a sub-basal streak olivaceous-green; a submarginal series of small fuscous spots near apices of longitudinal veins to apical areas; wings with some basal lineate fuscous streaks.

♂. Opercula ochraceous, about meeting internally, lateral margins obliquely rounded, apices convex.

Long. excl. tegm. ♂, 42 millim.; ♀, 40 millim. Exp. tegm., ♂ and ♀ 120 millim.

*Hab.* NORTH QUEENSLAND; Cairns.

I have described and figured the female because it is a fresh specimen in unfaded coloration; the male specimen I possess from the same source having all the olivaceous-green replaced by, or faded into, ochraceous.

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#### EXPLANATION OF PLATE XVI.

- FIG. 1 ♀, a. b. ♂. *Cicada sylvana*.  
 2, a. b. *Pæcilopsaltria hova*.  
 3, a. b. *Catacanthus mirabilis*.  
 4, a. b. *Coptosoma regnum*.